

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
Akihisa HONGO et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2004\_0291  
Serial No. NEW :  
Filed February 26, 2004 :

SUBSTRATE PLATING APPARATUS  
(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional  
of Serial No. 09/945,711,  
Filed September 5, 2001)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of ☒ the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. 09/945,711.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

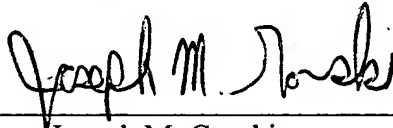
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
  - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihisa HONGO et al.

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February 26, 2004

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: February 26, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2004\_0291SERIAL NO.  
NEWAPPLICANT  
Akihisa HONGO et al.FILING DATE  
February 26, 2004

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,789,438	12/1998	Polan			
	AB	5,723,387	3/1998	Chen			
	AC	5,897,426	4/1999	Somekh			
	AD	6,110,011	8/2000	Somekh et al.			
	AE	5,679,059	4/1997	Okumura et al.			
	AF	5,679,059	10/1997	Nishi et al.			
	AG	5,827,110	10/1998	Yajima et al.			
	AH	5,885,138	3/1999	Okumura et al.			
	AI	3,649,509	3/1972	Morawetz et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AJ	8066865	3/1996	JP				
	AK	8150559	6/1996	JP				
	AL	8187659	7/1996	JP				
	AM	8187659	7/1996	JP				
	AN	8187660	7/1996	JP				

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,762,767	6/1998	Yamada et al.			
	AB	5,415,890	5/1995	Kloiber et al.			
	AC	5,092,975	3/1992	Yamamura et al.			
	AD	5,919,529	7/1999	Matsumura			
	AE	5,830,272	11/1998	Begin et al.			
	AF	5,368,715	11/1994	Hurley et al.			
	AG	6,254,760	7/2001	Shen et al.			
	AH						
	AI						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AJ	8243916	5/1995	Japan				
	AK	10163208	6/1998	Japan				
	AL	06-265510	9/1994	Japan			abstract	
	AM	06-264251	9/1994	Japan			abstract	
	AN	0 773 308	5/1997	EP				

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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	AP	
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DATE CONSIDERED